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~~INFORMATION REPORT~~

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COUNTRY Yugoslavia

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Diplomats Must Leave Families at Home

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1. Because of obstructions caused by sabotage, unskilled employees, worn-out material and paucity of spare parts, the Yugoslav railway system has only attained 65 percent of its pre-war efficiency. Many railroads and trestles were mined by the Yugoslav Army in 1945 and 1946, particularly in Slovenia and Croatia. Although the fuses of the mines were removed after international tension was relieved, the explosive charges remained in place. Recently, "Krizari" and "Chetniks" have been inserting fuses in the explosives and setting-off the mines. The Ministry of War has ordered all these explosives removed.
2. New recruits for the Yugoslav Army who live in areas recently incorporated into Yugoslavia are all assigned to units located in Serbia and Macedonia. Only those who are drafted into the Navy or who have special trades, such as mechanics, electricians and truck drivers, are stationed in western Yugoslavia.
3. It is rare to find a native of Istria or Fiume in the UDB, KNOJ, or special units of the Army and Navy. The Slovenes, however, even those who were at one time Italian citizens, enjoy the full confidence of the Yugoslav Government and may be found in all ranks of the Army and Police. In the officer and non-commissioned officer schools there are few Istrians, and those who do succeed in gaining admittance must speak at least one language other than Croat or Slovene.
4. One hundred twenty-four former German prisoners-of-war, including 27 Austrians, and 70 Czechoslovaks, recently obtained Yugoslav citizenship. These men are engineers or skilled metal workers and are employed at the Kragujevac Arsenal. The Ministry of Interior in Belgrade currently is considering applications for Yugoslav citizenship of 180 additional former German prisoners and also of several Italians who have remained in Yugoslavia since the war.
5. In order to discourage further disaffections of Yugoslav diplomatic officials abroad, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Belgrade has ordered all employees going abroad to leave their families behind them for at least one year. This system is not new in Yugoslavia and already has been applied, to some extent, in the case of commercial representatives who leave the country on government business.

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